



**61st Session of the UN Human Rights Council
Item 6 – General Debate
March 23, 2026**

Joint Oral Statement

Submitted by

CCIG – Centre Catholique International de Genève

Co-signed by

Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII

Caritas Internationalis

Dominicans for Justice and Peace - Order of Preachers

Dreikönigsaktion - Hilfswerk der Katholischen Jungschar

Edmund Rice International

Fédération internationale de l'Action des chrétiens pour l'abolition de la torture

Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale

International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education, Development

Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice

Office International de l'enseignement catholique

Pax Christi International

Pax Romana

Plan International

Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund

UPR Info

World Evangelical Alliance

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Mister President.

The International Catholic Center of Geneva, on behalf of this NGO coalition, welcomes the commitment of Member States to the UPR process over the years.

As the fourth UPR cycle draws to a close and a new cycle will begin in 2027, we invite Member States to enhance their efforts for an effective implementation of UPR recommendations as a concrete means of advancing the realization of human rights at the national level.

We welcome the establishment of the network of National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up and encourage Member States to support it, as it plays a key role in promoting coordinated, integrated and inclusive implementation of recommendations.

At a time when multilateralism is being questioned, the UPR demonstrates that an international mechanism can deliver results and foster dialogue and cooperation among all stakeholders.

In the face of non-cooperation and disengagement by some Member States, we call on all States to engage constructively in the UPR process and to uphold human rights by ensuring that their recommendations reflect core human rights principles. Human dignity, equality and non-discrimination must remain at the heart of this engagement.

With only four years remaining before the 2030 Agenda deadline, we must renew our commitment to a sustainable development that leaves no one behind, supported by strong and independent institutions and meaningful civic participation in decision-making.

Thank you.